

Senate Resolution 135

By: Senators Tolleson of the 20th, Bulloch of the 11th, Hill of the 4th, Johnson of the 1st, Meyer von Bremen of the 12th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February 1, 2007, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association (GFA), founded in 1907, is celebrating its
3 100th year of service to the state and to a vast community of forest landowners, businesses
4 and forestry professionals; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association is one of the oldest conservation organizations
6 in the United States, and through the years GFA has worked with landowners in protecting
7 their property rights and adopting sound land management practices to ensure that our forests
8 are managed in a sustainable manner and continue to provide clean air, clean water, soil
9 conservation, wildlife habitat, beauty, and recreational opportunities; and
- 10 WHEREAS, forestry is a leading industry in this state, creating more than 150,000 jobs and
11 having \$25 billion annual economic impact in this state; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Georgia's 24 million total acres of forests represent the major land use in the
13 state, occupying two-thirds of Georgia's total land area of 37 million acres; and
- 14 WHEREAS, 92 percent of Georgia's forestland is owned by private landowners, more than
15 in any other state; and
- 16 WHEREAS, timber is the highest value crop in this state, and Georgia remains one of the top
17 pulp and paper producing states in the nation; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Georgia's forests are not only economically important but also provide vital
19 environmental, educational, and social benefits and hold the potential to make Georgia a
20 leader in the production of renewable fuels and nature tourism, including hiking, birding,
21 camping, and hunting; and

1 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association is the sponsoring organization for the
2 Sustainable Forestry Initiative and thus promotes best management practices for forestry,
3 responsible wood procurement practices, wildlife habitat enhancement, and educational
4 outreach to Georgia's forest landowners; and

5 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that the significant contributions to the welfare of
6 this state of this industry and organization be recognized.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 recognize February 1, 2007, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol" in honor of the significant
9 contributions made to the welfare of this state by forestry and the Georgia Forestry
10 Association.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Forestry Association.